Battle of Lexington and Concord: The Shot Heard ‘Round the World

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Period 7

I chose my topic because I was interested in what started one of the biggest wars in our country’s history. I also wanted to know what tensions in New England had to do with the war and why did it blow up so bad. I also wanted to know how the tension in New England reached all the way down into Lexington. I also learned that General Gage played a major role because he didn’t want the colonist to get ammunition so he decided to raid the few ammunition bases in Concord.

In order to conduct my research I used my textbook as well as various internet sites and learned a lot more about the war and people who played big parts in the war. I learned that British General Gage was the commander of the British garrison in Boston and that a Provincial congress determined that the American Colonies would be independent. I also learned that the Continental Congress had stored weapons in the armory in Concord and 15 miles from Concord. Even though Boston was closed over night word still said that the attack had spread through the country.

In order to present my project I decided to do a PowerPoint because I could simultaneously because I could both do text and pictures. I wanted to show the contrast between Lexington Green in its quiet, serene form in contrast to the picture with the British Redcoats clashing with the colonial militia. It is interesting to observe that the British fought like they did in Europe out in the open with red coats on while the colonial militia fought more like guerilla warfare (hit and run). I also included a slide dedicated to the American and British flags.

My topic definitely relates to the theme of Nationalism. The slide I just refered to in the previous paragraph shows how the power transfer occurred from Britain to the colonies and the United States became in independent nation. If this battle at Lexington and Concord had not erupted we still might be under British rule. The fact that this trigger for violence occurred in Lexington had more ramifications that just that little battle. That is why it is called the “Shot Heard ‘Round the World” it opened up a new era for democracy which started in the tiny colonies and has spread through many parts of the world. The fact that the colonists over through a king and created a government by the people which is why we have the freedoms and opportunities we have today. That one little shot has truly transformed the world.

Word Count: 451